# Tacoma Fast Ferry Feasibility Study

**February 13, 2019** 









### Feasibility Study Team







Sawyer & Associates Consulting

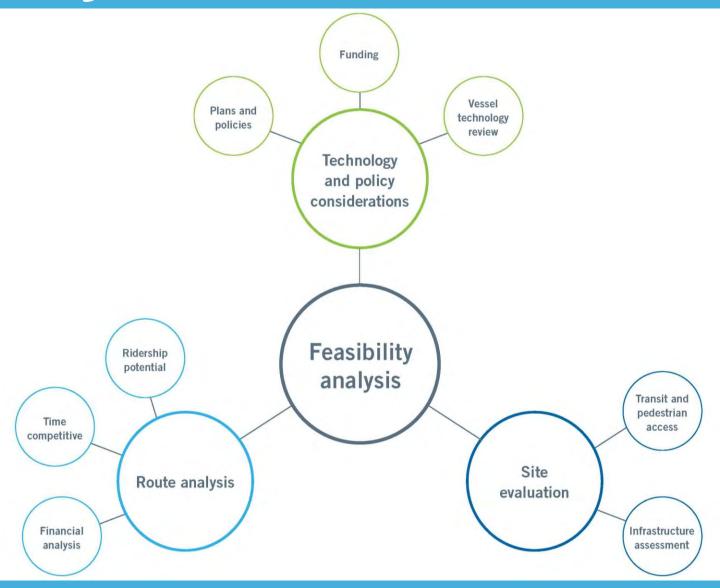








## Study Elements



# LANDING SITE ASSESSMENT

Three geographical areas:

- Downtown
- Old Town
- The Point

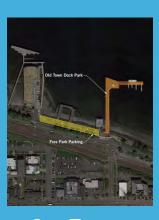




11TH STREET



SEAPORT



OLD TOWN



Pt. Ruston



Pt. Defiance

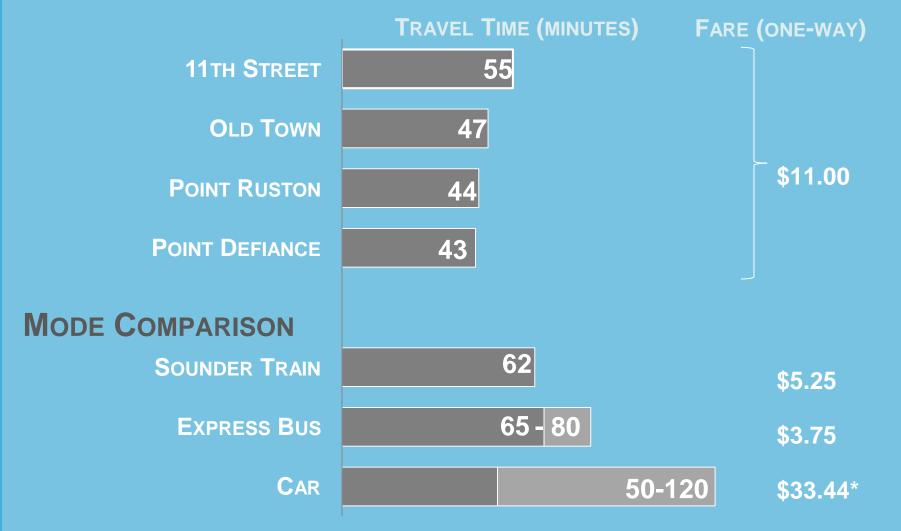
## ROUTE PROFILE ASSESSMENT

- TRANSIT CONNECTIONS
- FARE ASSUMPTIONS
- TRAVEL TIMESCOMPARISON
- OPERATING PROFILES

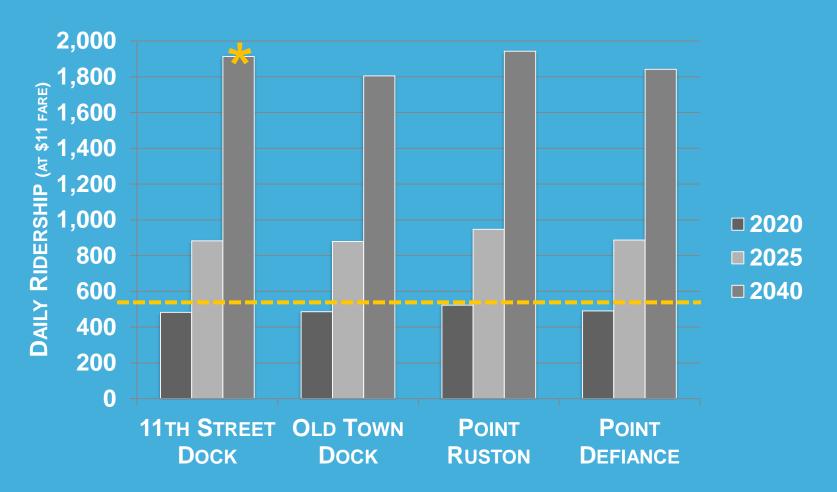


#### TIME AND FARE COMPETITIVE TRAVEL

#### POTENTIAL TACOMA PASSENGER-ONLY ROUTES



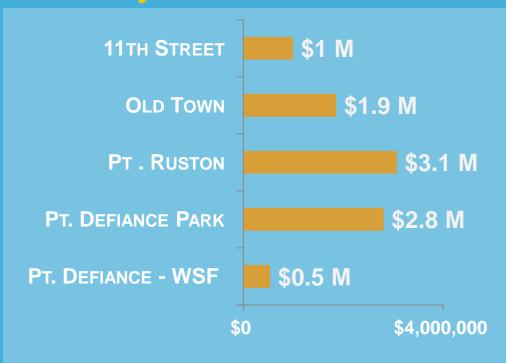
#### ESTIMATED WEEKDAY RIDERSHIP



- 2020: Point Ruston site has highest daily ridership (523 riders)
- 2040: 11th Street Dock catches up \*

#### ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

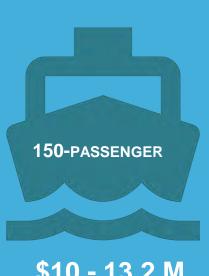
## **Estimated Terminal Facility Cost**



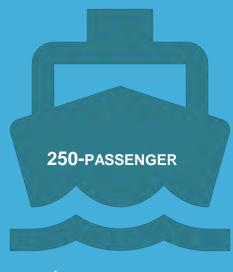
- Terminal facility cost estimates differ by location.
- Potential pilot service opportunities at:
  - Point Defiance parks facilities
  - Old Town
  - 11th Street Marina

#### ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

#### **Estimated Vessel Cost**



\$10 - 13.2 M



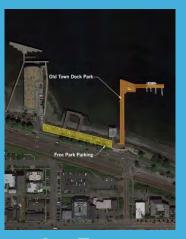
\$13 - 17.5 M

- Two service vessels and one back up vessel would ensure reliability
- 150-passenger vessel (appropriate for the predicted ridership)
- A larger vessel would be required for bow loading in the WSF slip, with more passenger capacity.

# START-UP CAPITAL COSTS BY LANDING SITE









Pt. Defiance

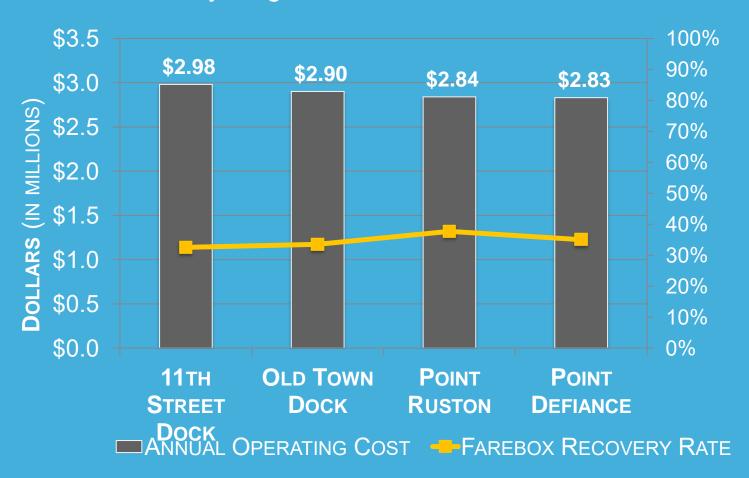
Pt. Ruston

**OLD TOWN** 

11TH STREET

#### ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS

- Comparable operating costs and revenue recovery for all sites.
- Farebox recovery ranges from 32.5% to 37.7% for all sites



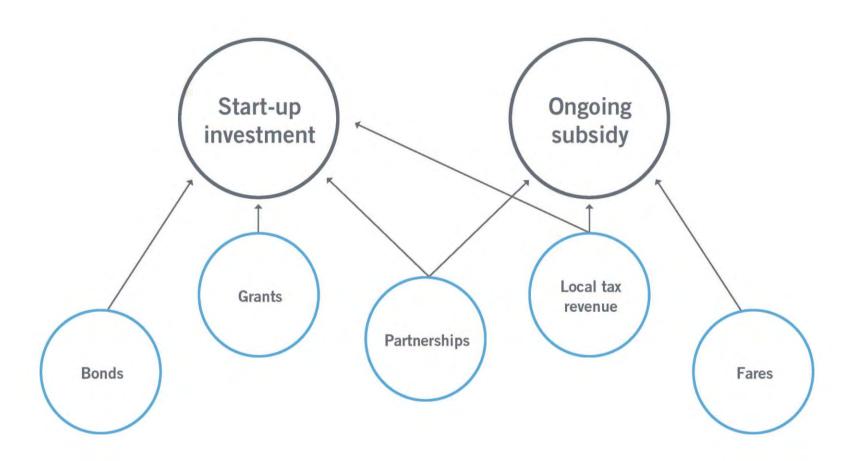
## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE COMPARISON

|                          | 11 <sup>TH</sup> STREET | OLD TOWN | POINT RUSTON | POINT<br>DEFIANCE |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------|-------------------|
| SUBSIDY<br>REQUIRED      | \$1.96 M                | \$1.88 M | \$1.71 M     | \$1.79 M          |
| COST PER<br>RIDER        | \$28.77                 | \$27.88  | \$24.80      | \$26.70           |
| COST PER<br>SERVICE HOUR | \$1,431                 | \$1,394  | \$1,364      | \$1,362           |

#### MODAL COST COMPARISON

|                          | POTENTIAL POF FROM POINT RUSTON | KING COUNTY<br>WATER TAXI | SOUNDER<br>TRAIN | SOUND<br>TRANSIT<br>EXPRESS BUS |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| ANNUAL<br>RIDERSHIP      | 114,400                         | 657,600                   | 4,650,000        | 18,860,000                      |
| Total Annual<br>Cost     | \$2.83 M                        | \$7.53 M                  | \$53.89 M        | \$141.30 M                      |
| SUBSIDY<br>REQUIRED      | \$1.71 M                        | \$4.52 M                  | \$38.76 M        | \$103.57 M                      |
| COST PER<br>RIDER        | \$24.80                         | \$11.00                   | \$11.59          | \$7.49                          |
| COST PER<br>SERVICE HOUR | \$1,364                         | \$1,477                   | \$721            | \$178                           |
| FAREBOX<br>RECOVERY      | 37.7%                           | 40.0%                     | 28.1%            | 26.7%                           |

#### **FUNDING NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES**



## CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

- TACOMA TO SEATTLE FAST FERRY SERVICE IS FEASIBLE
- FURTHER ANALYSIS IS REQUIRED TO DEVELOP A VIABLE BUSINESS PLAN
  - FUNDING PLAN
  - SCHEDULE AND RIDERSHIP
  - Preferred Landing Location(s)
  - ECONOMIC IMPACT
  - SEATTLE FACILITIES
  - REGIONAL COORDINATION/COLLABORATION
  - COMMUNITY SUPPORT



#### **2019 ACTION**

THE GOVERNOR'S **BUDGET REQUESTS AN** \$350,000 AWARD TO THE **PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL TO UPDATE** THEIR 2008 PUGET SOUND **REGIONAL PASSENGER-ONLY FERRY STUDY AND COVER THE ENTIRE PUGET SOUND** 

